

What is claimed is:

1. A playback method for reproducing an optical disc comprising an area for storing a data stream containing an encoded video stream and at least one encoded audio stream, and an area for storing management information, said management information comprising an application flag which indicates whether a single audio stream includes at least two of the following,

(a) dual monaural audio data having first audio channel data and second audio channel data, one of which is to be selectively reproduced,

(b) stereo audio data having first audio channel data and second audio channel data, which are to simultaneously reproduced, and

(c) monaural audio data having data for only one audio channel;

the playback method comprising:

reading the application flag from the area for storing management information;

detecting according to the application flag whether the single audio stream contains at least two of said audio data (a), (b) and (c); and

generating a program list including audio information based on the application flag.

2. A playback apparatus for reproducing an optical disc comprising an area for storing a data stream containing an encoded video stream and at least one encoded audio stream, and an area for storing management information, said management information comprising an application flag which indicates whether a single stream includes at least two of the following,

(a) dual monaural audio data having first audio channel data and second audio channel data, one of which is to be selectively reproduced,

(b) stereo audio data having first audio channel data and second audio channel data,

which are to be simultaneously reproduced, and

(c) monaural audio data having data for only one audio channel;

the playback apparatus comprising:

means for reading the application flag from the area for storing management information;

means for detecting according to the application flag whether the single audio stream contains at least two of said audio data (a), (b) and (c); and

means for generating a program list including audio information based on the application flag.